To be received and placed on file:

The committee has met twice since the last report (November 9, 2012 and March 11, 2013) and will meet one more time this quarter (May 24, 2013).

Since the last report, the Committee was asked to review and comment on the following and/or took action as listed.

- Systemwide Review of the June 25, 2012 “Rebenching” report. The committee had several comments, which were forwarded to Academic Senate Chair Wudka on November 24, 2012.

- Dr. Chris Kelty (Chair of the Systemwide library committee, UCOLASC) was invited to campus and made two presentations to faculty (10:30AM to noon and 3 to 4 pm on November 21, 2012) regarding the proposed Systemwide Open Access Policy.

- Prior to the November 21 meetings, the committee developed a list of questions for Dr. Kelty to address during his presentations. These were forwarded to Senate Chair Wudka November 11, 2012.

- Following the November 21 meetings, the Library Committee’s views on the Proposed Open Access Policy were forwarded to Senate Chair Wudka on November 27, 2012.

- On April 18, 2013 the committee was asked to comment on a UCR proposal to merge the Committee on Library & Scholarly Communication with the Committee on Academic Computing & Information Technology. A response is being prepared for Senate Chair Wudka.

Major items of discussion included:

Much of the time during our Committee meetings to date has been taken up reviewing various aspects of the proposed Open Access policy. The Committee had concerns about several aspects of the policy and the lack of clarity regarding what was proposed. Following the two faculty meetings with UCOLASC Chair Kelty, some of these concerns were answered but a number remained. These concerns were transmitted to Senate Chair Wudka and also expressed by Committee Chair Morse at the UCOLASC meeting in Oakland on February 22, 2013. Following that meeting, the UCOLASC committee has developed a revised Open Access policy and we discussed the general form of that revision at our March 11 meeting and will review the proposal itself at our May 24 meeting.
Outgoing University Librarian Ruth Jackson provided a nice summary of current and past issues faced by the UCR Libraries.

The Committee discussed Senate Bills 1052 and 1053 dealing with Open Source Textbooks. A Systemwide committee has been formed, which will create the infrastructure to support access to free digital textbooks for the top 50 lower division courses offered collectively by the UC, CSU, and California community colleges. A problem is that funding must be matched (50:50) and it is not clear who is going to collect the matching funds. The Committee will have to wrestle with how to define the top 50 courses; one assumes it would be so as to benefit the largest number of total students.

Also discussed was federal FASTR (Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act) legislation - federal legislation was introduced February 14, 2013 to increase the dissemination of publicly funded research results. All federal agencies with extramural research budgets of $100 million or more would be required to provide the public with online access to research manuscripts no later than 6 months after publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

We discussed California SB-609, which was introduced February 20, 2013 and presents similar ideas about how publications resulting from state funded research should be made available to the public.

We discussed a directive from the Executive Office of the President to all agencies with extramural research budgets of $100 million (there are ca. 19 such agencies, i.e. most that fund scientific research) to develop a plan within the next 6 months to provide the public with online access to research manuscripts no later than 12 months after publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

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